

when underway shall, so far as possible, keep out of the way of:

- (1) A vessel not under command; and
- (2) A vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver.

(d) *Seaplanes on the water.* A seaplane on the water shall, in general, keep well clear of all vessels and avoid impeding their navigation. In circumstances, however, where risk of collision exists, she shall comply with the Rules of this part.

CONDUCT OF VESSELS IN RESTRICTED VISIBILITY

§ 83.19 Conduct of vessels in restricted visibility (Rule 19).

(a) *Vessels to which rule applies.* This Rule applies to vessels not in sight of one another when navigating in or near an area of restricted visibility.

(b) *Safe speed; engines ready for immediate maneuver.* Every vessel shall proceed at a safe speed adapted to the prevailing circumstances and conditions of restricted visibility. A power-driven vessel shall have her engines ready for immediate maneuver.

(c) *Due regard to prevailing circumstances and conditions.* Every vessel shall have due regard to the prevailing circumstances and conditions of restricted visibility when complying with Rules 4 through 10.

(d) *Detection of vessel by radar alone.* A vessel which detects by radar alone the presence of another vessel shall determine if a close-quarters situation is developing or risk of collision exists. If so, she shall take avoiding action in ample time, provided that when such action consists of an alteration of course, so far as possible the following shall be avoided:

(1) An alteration of course to port for a vessel forward of the beam, other than for a vessel being overtaken; and

(2) An alteration of course toward a vessel abeam or abaft the beam.

(e) *Reduction of speed to minimum.* Except where it has been determined that a risk of collision does not exist, every vessel which hears apparently forward of her beam the fog signal of another vessel, or which cannot avoid a close-quarters situation with another vessel forward of her beam, shall reduce her speed to the minimum at which she can

be kept on course. She shall if necessary take all her way off and, in any event, navigate with extreme caution until danger of collision is over.

Subpart C—Lights and Shapes

§ 83.20 Application (Rule 20).

(a) *Compliance in all weathers.* Rules in this part shall be complied with in all weathers.

(b) *Rules concerning lights complied with from sunset to sunrise; other lights.* The Rules concerning lights shall be complied with from sunset to sunrise, and during such times no other lights shall be exhibited, except such lights as cannot be mistaken for the lights specified in these Rules or do not impair their visibility or distinctive character, or interfere with the keeping of a proper lookout.

(c) *Lights during daylight hours in restricted visibility; other circumstances.* The lights prescribed by these Rules shall, if carried, also be exhibited from sunrise to sunset in restricted visibility and may be exhibited in all other circumstances when it is deemed necessary.

(d) *Rules concerning shapes; compliance by day.* The Rules concerning shapes shall be complied with by day.

(e) *Annex.* The lights and shapes specified in these Rules shall comply with the provisions of Annex I of these Rules.

§ 83.21 Definitions (Rule 21).

(a) *Masthead light* means a white light placed over the fore and aft centerline of the vessel showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the vessel, except that on a vessel of less than 12 meters in length the masthead light shall be placed as nearly as practicable to the fore and aft centerline of the vessel.

(b) *Sidelights* mean a green light on the starboard side and a red light on the port side each showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 112.5 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on its respective side. On a vessel of less than 20 meters

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in length the side lights may be combined in one lantern carried on the fore and aft centerline of the vessel, except that on a vessel of less than 12 meters in length the sidelights when combined in one lantern shall be placed as nearly as practicable to the fore and aft centerline of the vessel.

(c) *Sternlight* means a white light placed as nearly as practicable at the stern showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 135 degrees and so fixed as to show the light 67.5 degrees from right aft on each side of the vessel.

(d) *Towing light* means a yellow light having the same characteristics as the "sternlight" defined in paragraph (c) of this Rule.

(e) *All-round light* means a light showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of 360 degrees.

(f) *Flashing light* means a light flashing at regular intervals at a frequency of 120 flashes or more per minute.

(g) *Special flashing light* means a yellow light flashing at regular intervals at a frequency of 50 to 70 flashes per minute, placed as far forward and as nearly as practicable on the fore and aft centerline of the tow and showing an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of not less than 180 degrees nor more than 225 degrees and so fixed as to show the light from right ahead to abeam and no more than 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on either side of the vessel.

§ 83.22 Visibility of lights (Rule 22).

The lights prescribed in these Rules shall have an intensity as specified in Annex I to these Rules, so as to be visible at the following minimum ranges:

(a) *Vessel of 50 meters or more in length.* In a vessel of 50 meters or more in length:

- (1) A masthead light, 6 miles;
- (2) A sidelight, 3 miles;
- (3) A sternlight, 3 miles;
- (4) A towing light, 3 miles;
- (5) A white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 3 miles; and
- (6) A special flashing light, 2 miles.

(b) *Vessels of 12 meters or more in length but less than 50 meters in length.* In a vessel of 12 meters or more in length but less than 50 meters in length:

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(1) A masthead light, 5 miles; except that where the length of the vessel is less than 20 meters, 3 miles;

(2) A sidelight, 2 miles;

(3) A sternlight, 2 miles;

(4) A towing light, 2 miles;

(5) A white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 2 miles; and

(6) A special flashing light, 2 miles.

(c) *Vessels of less than 12 meters in length.* In a vessel of less than 12 meters in length:

(1) A masthead light, 2 miles;

(2) A sidelight, 1 mile;

(3) A sternlight, 2 miles;

(4) A towing light, 2 miles;

(5) A white, red, green or yellow all-round light, 2 miles; and

(6) A special flashing light, 2 miles.

(d) *An inconspicuous, partly submerged vessel or objects being towed.* In an inconspicuous, partly submerged vessel or objects being towed:

(1) A white all-round light, 3 miles.

§ 83.23 Power-driven vessels underway (Rule 23).

(a) *Lights exhibited by power-driven vessels underway.* A power-driven vessel underway shall exhibit:

(1) A masthead light forward;

(2) A second masthead light abaft of and higher than the forward one; except that a vessel of less than 50 meters in length shall not be obliged to exhibit such light but may do so;

(3) Sidelights; and

(4) A sternlight.

(b) *Air-cushion vessels.* An air-cushion vessel when operating in the non-displacement mode shall, in addition to the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule, exhibit an all-round flashing yellow light where it can best be seen.

(c) *Alternative lights for power-driven vessels of less than 12 meters in length.* A power-driven vessel of less than 12 meters in length may, in lieu of the lights prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule, exhibit an all-round white light and sidelights.

(d) *Power-driven vessels when operating on Great Lakes.* A power-driven vessel when operating on the Great Lakes may carry an all-round white light in lieu of the second masthead light and sternlight prescribed in paragraph (a) of this Rule. The light shall be carried